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ANNUAL REPORT

OF THE

NORTH-EASTERN COMBINED SANITARY DISTRICT

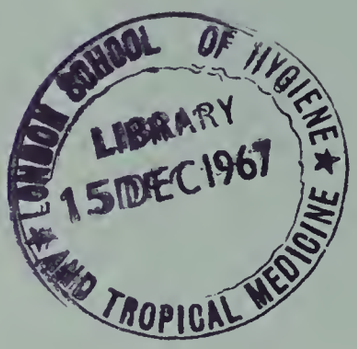
OF

WEST SUSSEX.

1945.

By the Medical Officer of Health:
KENNETH N. MAWSON, M.B., Ch.B., D.P.H.

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A N N U A L R E P O R T

OF THE

NORTH-EASTERN COMBINED

DISTRICT

OF

W E S T S U S S E X

1 9 4 5

By the Medical Officer of Health:

Kenneth N. Mawson, M.B.,Ch.B.,D.P.H.

The Area District has been re-constituted to include Horsham Urban, Horsham Rural and Petworth Rural Districts.

By Order in Council, No.88325.

This Report, the tenth for the new arrangement of districts, represents the seventy-second for the individual areas. During the years 1939 to 1943 it was necessary, owing to war conditions, to issue separate Reports for each of the three districts.

I N D E X

Horsham Urban District... 4
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WEST SUSSEX NORTH-EASTERN COMBINED DISTRICT

July, 1946.

Health Department,
Comewell House,
North Street,
Horsham.

To the Chairman and Members of the Public Health Committee of the Horsham Urban District Council, of the General Purposes Committee of the Horsham Rural District Council, and of the Petworth Rural District Council.

Ladies and Gentlemen,

I have the honour to submit to you my Annual Report on the health of the above-mentioned districts, which by Order in Council No.88325 were re-constituted to form the North-Eastern Combined Sanitary District of West Sussex. This report, the tenth for the new arrangement of districts, represents the seventy-second for the individual areas, and has been arranged in accordance with the suggestions contained in Circular 28/46 of the Ministry of Health. The total area of the Combined District is 126,848 acres, with an estimated population at mid-year 1945 of 46,740.

Reference to the figures in the Report indicate that healthy conditions continue to prevail in the area. All statistics have been furnished separately for each of the three Districts, but in the Appendix will be found certain matters of common interest to all Authorities in the Combine.

In the interests of economy it was decided, during the war years, to duplicate copies of the Reports in the Department. Owing to the present high cost of printing, and the considerable delay which would have resulted, this Report has again been duplicated in my office. It will be appreciated that this involves considerable additional work for the staff, and it is hoped that it may be possible to revert to the normal practice in the coming year.

I wish to tender my thanks for the Chairman and Members of the Committees with whom my work is particularly connected for their support and consideration. I have also to acknowledge the conscientious service of all members of the staff of the Health Departments, and the co-operation of the Chief Officers of the Councils.

I am, Ladies and Gentlemen,

Your obedient servant,

J. W. Manson

Medical Officer of Health.

HORSHAM URBAN DISTRICT, 1945

STATISTICS & SOCIAL CONDITIONS OF THE AREA, 1945.

Area (Acres)	1,843
Population at Census, 1931	13,550
Estimated resident population, mid-1945	15,420
Number of Inhabited Houses (end of 1945) according to the Rate Books	4,601
Rateable Value	£141,652
Sum represented by a Penny Rate	£560.13.5d.

EXTRACTS FROM VITAL STATISTICS OF THE YEAR.

	Total	M.	F.	
Live Births (Legitimate	228	110	118	)Birth Rate 16.33
(Illegitimate	24	16	8	)per 1,000 estimated
				)R.P. in mid-1944.
Still Births	1	1	0	)Rate per 1,000
				)Total Births 3.96
Deaths	220	101	119	Death Rate 14.26

England & Wales Birth Rate. 16.1 Death Rate.. 11.4

W. Sussex Urban Districts Birth Rate.. 15.67 Death Rate 16.62

Deaths from Puerperal Causes:-

	Deaths.	Rate per 1,000 Total Births.
Puerperal Sepsis	0	0.00
Other Puerperal Causes	0	0.00

Death Rate of Infants under one year of age:-

All infants per 1,000 Live Births	31.74
Legitimate infants per 1,000 Legitimate Live Births	30.70
Illegitimate infants per 1,000 Illegitimate Live Births.	41.66

During 1945, 7 legitimate children and one illegitimate child died under one year of age. Prematurity accounted for two of these deaths.
(Infant Mortality Rate for England & Wales..... 46).

Deaths from Cancer (all ages)	33
Deaths from Measles (all ages)	0
Deaths from Whooping-Cough (all ages)	0
Deaths from Diarrhoea (under two years of age)	2

Extracts from Vital Statistics (Cont).

The chief causes of death were:-

Heart Disease	78
Cancer	33
Cerebral Haemorrhage	20
Pneumonia	10
Tuberculosis (all forms)	4

SOCIAL CONDITIONS

Horsham is a prosperous market and industrial town situated in the Weald at a railway junction, and is the shopping and amusement centre for the surrounding populous rural district. There are a few local industries, and unemployment was negligible prior to the outbreak of war.

PUBLIC HEALTH OFFICERS OF THE URBAN AUTHORITY.

(a). Medical.

Kenneth N. Mawson, M.B., Ch.B., D.P.H.,
Medical Officer of Health, part time with other districts in the Sanitary Combine, and, as Assistant County Medical Officer, School Medical Inspector and District Tuberculosis Officer for the area.

(b). Others.

Senior Sanitary Inspector:-
E. Partridge, M.S.I.A., A.R.San.I.,
Certified Sanitary Inspector, Royal Sanitary Institute.
Certified Inspector of Meat and Other Foods, Royal Sanitary Institute.

Additional Sanitary Inspector:-
H. W. Simmonds, M.S.I.A., C.S.I.B., (Resigned 10.6.45).
Certified Sanitary Inspector, Royal Sanitary Institute and Sanitary Inspectors' Examination Joint Board.
Certified Inspector of Meat and Other Foods, Royal Sanitary Institute.

Clerk (On Active Service):
C. H. Street, C.S.I.B., Certified Sanitary Inspector, Royal Sanitary Institute and Sanitary Inspectors' Examination Joint Board.

NOTIFIABLE INFECTIOUS DISEASES.

The following cases among the civilian population were notified during the year:-

Scarlet Fever.....	17 (24)
Measles.....	130 (39)
Whooping Cough.....	11 (80)
Pneumonia.....	4 (6)
Puerperal Pyrexia.....	3 (1)
Erysipelas.....	5 (2)

It will be noted that, once again, no cases of Diphtheria occurred. The figures in brackets indicate the number of cases notified during the previous year.

The Council makes an annual grant to the local Nursing Association towards the cost of provision of nursing for Measles and Pneumonia.

T U B E R C U L O S I S

The number of cases added to the Register during the year... 16

Pulmonary Males... 6	Non-pulmonary Males... 1
Females... 9	Females... 0

There were 4 deaths from Tuberculosis; all were pulmonary (2 Male, 2 Female).

The number of cases of Tuberculosis on the Register at the 31st December, 1945 was 143.

DIPHTHERIA IMMUNISATION.

During the year, 219 children under 5 years of age, and 38 children between the ages of 5 and 15 years, received the full course of immunisation under the official Scheme.

It was estimated that on 31st December 1945, 58% of children below the age of 5 years, and 84% of children between 5 and 15, had been immunised.

Further particulars will be found in the Appendix to this Report.

TREATMENT OF SCABIES AND VERMINOUS CONDITIONS.

The total number of patients and contacts treated during the year was 144, as compared with 284 in 1944, and they were dealt with as shown:-

(a) Tan Cottage Sick-Bay:- 56 Out-Patients. (192 in 1944).

(b) Base Hospital (male patients):- 2 (14 in 1944).

(c) Home Treatment, (including symptomless contacts):- 78 (75 in 1944).

(d) At Horsham Health Centre:- 8

Details of the present arrangements for the treatment of these cases will be found in the Appendix.

LABORATORY FACILITIES

Routine bacteriological work was again referred to the Emergency Public Health Laboratory at Christ's Hospital until August. Details of the existing arrangements will be found in the Appendix.

There was a further increase in the amount of work carried out during the year, particularly in respect of samples of water and milk.

ACCOMMODATION FOR INFECTIOUS DISEASE.

There has been no change in the arrangements whereby patients are admitted to Swandean Isolation Hospital, Worthing. By agreement with the Corporation of the Borough of Worthing, five beds are reserved for cases from the Horsham Urban District.

The following cases of infectious disease were admitted during the period ending 31st December, 1945:-

Scarlet Fever..... 9 (19 in 1944).
Cerebro-spinal Meningitis.... 1 (2 in 1944).

In the one case of C.S.M. the diagnosis, after admission, was not confirmed.

SANITARY CIRCUMSTANCES OF THE AREA.

Water.

I am indebted to Mr. C. G. Atkinson, F.S.I. etc., the Council's Surveyor and Water Engineer, for the following note:-

"There were no outstanding matters in connection with the water supply during 1945. Owing to the reduction in military consumption, it was found that we were able to dispense with water from the Rural District Council from May onwards, by keeping the Stanley Street Works in regular use."

Sampling of the town's main supply was continued throughout the year. Regular samples were taken of both untreated and treated waters at the Whitesbridge Works and at Stanley Street, and further samples from Beedingwood Reservoir and consumers'taps in various parts of the town. In the earlier part of the year, samples were taken in the Guildford Road area, as the supply in this district then came from Chanctonbury sources.

Reports, until September, showed that the water from all sources of supply was, as in the past, of a high standard of bacterial purity. During the last quarter, however, the position was less satisfactory. Ten samples of untreated, and ten of treated water, were taken from the Whitesbridge Works during the months of October to December. Of these, four samples of untreated water were found to contain probable coliform organisms at a

Water (Continued).

level of three or more per 100 m.l. Of seven untreated samples from Stanley Street, taken during November and December, three contained three or more probable organisms per 100 m.l. Fortunately all samples of treated water, as it passes to consumers, were found to be sterile, and to have a satisfactory content of residual chlorine.

It will be remembered that in February, 1943, a sample of untreated water from Whitesbridge was found to contain 80 coliform organisms per 100 m.l., and these proved to be of faecal type. This unsatisfactory sample was taken at a time of flooding, and was followed by satisfactory reports from over two years. The fact that evidence of pollution, even though of slight degree, has again been found, must give rise to concern. The main source of supply to the town is from the Whitesbridge Pumping Station. This is situated on a small mound beside the River Arun, below Birchen Bridge Mill Pond, and three bores have been sunk to a depth of 265 feet. The boreholes and adits, however, are believed to derive their water from the Tunbridge Wells Sandstone at a depth of only 90 - 100 feet below the ground surface. The Tunbridge Wells rock outcrops in the neighbourhood, and provides water to shallow wells at a number of farms and houses. Pumping at Whitesbridge affects the level in these areas, and this phenomenon has also been observed at the old Waterworks at Stanley Street, which is over a mile from the pumping station. The rock is liable to fissures and cracks, and is not effectively sealed off from the surface by water-tight strata. The amount of water pumped at Whitesbridge suggests that fissures must be present to contribute to the yield, as the Tunbridge Wells Sandstone is itself a compact formation.

It is impossible to be certain as to the source of the present pollution, which may arise from the river, from the manured fields above the Pumping Station (over which the Council have no control), and from cesspools and soakaways from the farms and houses in the area of Magpie Lane. It has for years been realised that the last mentioned source called urgently for attention, and in September 1939 the late Dr. E. Suckling made a Report to the Rural District Council, in which he recommended a sewage system for this area and suggested that it should link up with the main sewers of the Urban District Council in the Brighton Road, near the boundary. This scheme, which was impracticable in time of war, would call for joint action on the part of both Authorities.

Water (Continued).

The degree of pollution of the river water has probably been rendered worse during the later years of the war by the establishment of three military camps in the area, at Monks Common, Forest House and Coolhurst. In the case of the former camp, which was designed to accommodate 1,000 men, a complete sewage disposal works was erected, consisting of sedimentation tanks, filters, humus tanks and sludge beds. Provided that this plant were properly maintained, the risk of serious pollution would appear slight, as the distance of travel between the point of discharge of the effluent and the Waterworks is 2½ miles. Whether proper supervision has in fact been exercised would appear doubtful in view of the many changes of personnel at this camp.

It is significant that small numbers of coliform organisms were found in samples of untreated water from the Stanley Street well during the same period. Water from this source is untreated, apart from chlorination, and the system does not allow any material "contact-time". Such a system is not in keeping with modern practice, and it is to be hoped that the pumping of water from this well, which should only be regarded as an emergency source, will soon cease.

The samples referred to above are submitted to the short bacteriological test only, and have been examined at the Emergency Public Health Laboratory at Epsom College since the closure of the Christ's Hospital Laboratory.

In addition, samples of untreated water are sent each month to the Counties Public Health Laboratory for full chemical and bacteriological examination. In none of these samples have any coliform organisms been detected. The analyst comments on the presence of iron and manganese, which causes discolouration, turbidity and deposit. The present system of treatment at Whitesbridge is not fully effective, and the installation of additional plant for chemical dosage, which would permit adequate contact and reaction time before filtration, would be necessary to clarify the water successfully.

Water (Continued).

A typical report is as follows:-

Date and time sample was taken..... 4.9.45 10.0 a.m. ...
Date of receipt at Laboratory..... 5.9.45
Taken by..... E. Partridge Witness... Mr. Watson
Taken from..Tap, Raw Water - Whitesbridge Pumping Station.....

Chemical Results in Parts per 100,000

Appearance.....	Faint opalescence - flocculent deposit of mineral debris consisting of iron oxide and siliceous particles. Turbidity: 12 parts per million, Silica Scale.		
Colour.....	Greyish Yellow-brown. Filtered: Sl.yellow-brown. Hazen: 20	Odour	Nil.
Reaction pH.....	Neutral: 7.0	Free Carbonic Acid	1.9
Electric Conductivity at 20°C.....	310	Total Solids, dried at 180°C.....	21.0
Chlorine in Chlorides.	2.1	Alkalinity as $CaCO_3$....	13.5
Nitrogen in Nitrates..	0.00	Nitrites.....	Absent
Hardness: Permanent...	0.0		
Temporary...	1.5		
Total.....	1.5		
Metals.....	Iron Total 0.18	In solution 0.080	
	Manganese 0.020	Other metals absent	
Free Ammonia.....	0.030	Ammoniacal Nitrogen	-
Albuminoid Ammonia....	0.0012	Albuminoid Nitrogen	-
Oxygen absorbed in 4 hrs. at 27°C.....	0.015		

Bacteriological Results

No. of Bacteria per c.c. or ml...
On Agar in 3 days at 20°C..... 9
On Agar in 1 day at 37°C..... 0
On Agar in 2 days at 37°C..... 6
Bacillus Coli..... Present in..-.. Absent in 100 c.c.
Bacillus Welchii..... Present in..-.. Absent in 100 c.c.
Presumptive Coliform Reaction.. Present in..-.. Absent in 100 c.c.

Report: This sample has faint opalescence and deposit due to the presence of an appreciable trace of iron together with sand particles. The water is neutral in reaction, very soft in character, contains no excess of salinity or mineral constituents in solution and is of very satisfactory organic and bacterial purity.
Apart from the amount of iron and siliceous matter in suspension and the consequent impairment of clarity, the results are consistent with a wholesome water suitable for drinking and domestic purposes.
Analyst..Counties Public Health Lab: Gidea Park, Essex.

Sanitary Inspection of the District.

Number of Notices served under the Public Health Act:

1. Informal	230
2. Statutory	9

Number of Notices complied with:

1. Informal	255
2. Statutory	6

Inspections etc.

Complaints received, including dustbin complaints	218
Miscellaneous Inspections	204
Re-inspections	1,025
Factories	
Number on Register	75
Bakehouses	
Number on Register	14
Basement Bakehouses	1
Inspections	9
Number of Defects found	2
Number of Defects remedied	2
Laundries	
Inspections	3
Other Factories	
Inspections	33
Number of Defects found	8
Number of Defects remedied	5
Moveable Dwellings	
Inspections	9
Offensive Trades	
Inspections	2
Fried Fish Shops	
Inspections	17
Shops	
Number of shops inspected	30
Public House Conveniences	
Inspections	66
Common Lodging House	
Inspections	8
Infectious Disease	
Visits and enquiry into Infectious Disease	40
Rooms Disinfected	18
Books Disinfected	79
Drainage etc.	
Drains tested	3
Drains relaid	1
New drains laid	5
Premises connected to main drainage	2

Inspections (Cont).

Dust-bins provided..... 85

Water

Number of samples taken from the Towns' Water Supply. (For particulars see below). 104

Female Domestic Servants' Agency

Number Registered..... 3
Number of Inspections..... 1

Rats & Mice (Destructions) Act, 1919

Number of complaints received..... 172
Total number of visits..... 991
Action taken:-
Trapping..... 27
Gassing..... 3
Poisoning..... 147
Estimated number of rats caught..... 481
Structural work necessary..... 8
Mice caught..... 67

A test of sewers through-out the district as to possible rat infestation was made. 132 Man-holes were baited, only 8 of which showed any evidence of the presence of rats.

Eradication of Bedbugs.

Number of visits in connection with Vermin..... 24
Number of rooms treated for Vermin..... 25

Swimming Baths and Pools.

The Council own the only public swimming pool, which is an open-air bath situated in Horsham Park. The satisfactory condition of the water is ensured by a continuous filtration plant with a six hour turn-over and the use of a chemical process. In addition to daily routine tests to enable the correct chemical treatment of the water to be carried out, samples are taken weekly for bacteriological examination. Nineteen of these samples were taken during the season. All were satisfactory.

Water - Town's Supply.

Place	Samples taken	Bact.	Chemical & Bact.	Satis-factory	B.Coli Present
Whitesbridge(untreated)	15	14	1	7	8
Whitesbridge(treated)	17	15	2	17	0
Stanley Street(untreated)	6	6	0	2	4
Stanley Street(treated)	11	10	1	11	0
Beedingwood.	15	13	2	15	0
Star Reservoir.	11	8	3	10	1
District.	29	24	5	29	0
TOTALS	104	90	14	91	13

H O U S I N G

1. Inspection of dwelling houses during the year:

(1).a. Total number of dwelling houses inspected for housing defects (under Public Health or Housing Acts)..... 241

b. Number of inspections made for the purpose..... 414

(2).a. Number of dwelling houses (included under sub-head (1) above) which were inspected and recorded under the Housing Consolidated Regulations 1925 & 1932... 10

b. Number of inspections made for the purpose..... 25

(3). Number of dwelling houses found to be in a state so injurious to health as to be unfit for human habitation..... 2

(4). Number of dwelling houses (exclusive of those referred to under the preceeding sub-head) found not to be in all respects reasonably fit for human habitation..... 230

2. Remedy of defects during the year without service of formal notice:-

Number of dwelling houses rendered fit in consequence of informal action by the Local Authority or their Officer..... 211

3. Action under Statutory powers during the year:-

(a). Proceedings under Sections 9, 10 and 16 of the Housing Act, 1936:-

(1) Number of dwelling houses in respect of which notices were served requiring repairs..... 0

(2) Number of dwelling houses which were rendered fit after the service of formal notices:-

a. By Owners..... 0

b. By Local Authority in default of Owners..... 0

(b). Proceeding under the Public Health Acts:-

(1) Number of dwelling houses in respect of which notices were served requiring defects to be remedied..... 9

Housing (Cont).

(2) Number of dwelling houses in which defects were remedied after service of formal notices:-

a. By Owners..... 9

b. By Local Authority in default of Owners..... 0

(c). Proceedings under Sections 11 and 13 of the Housing Act, 1936:-

1. Number of dwelling houses in respect of which Demolition Orders were made..... 1

2. Number of dwelling houses demolished in persuance of Demolition Orders..... 0

(d). Proceedings under Section 12 of the Housing Act, 1936.

1. Number of separate tenements or underground rooms in respect of which Closing Orders were made..... 1

4. Housing Act, 1936, Part IV - Overcrowding.

(a). 1. Number of dwellings overcrowded at the end of the year..... 11

2. Number of families dwelling therein..... 21

3. Number of persons dwelling therein..... 68

(b). Number of new cases of overcrowding reported during the year..... 4

(c). 1. Number of cases of overcrowding relieved during the year..... 1

2. Number of persons concerned in such cases..... 4

(d). Number of formal notices to abate overcrowding served..... 0

(e). Number of notices complied with..... 0

General Scheme for Repair of Houses
Control of Buildings Order
Timber Control

Eighty seven certificates were issued by the Senior Sanitary Inspector and 174 visits paid in respect of work carried out at premises coming under his supervision.

INSPECTION AND SUPERVISION OF FOOD.

(1). Milk Supply.

Dairies and Cowsheds

Visits and Inspections	60
Number Registered	20

There are ten Dairy Farms in the district and fifteen visits were paid to these.

Wholesale:-

a. Tuberculin Tested	0
b. Accredited	5
c. Pasteurised	0
d. Others	5

Retail:-

a. Tuberculin Tested	1
b. Tuberculin Certified	1
c. Accredited	0
d. Pasteurised	2
e. Others	10
f. Tuberculin Tested (Pasteurised)	1

Milk Sampled.

Designation	Samples taken	Up to Standard	Below Standard
T.T. Certified	1	1	0
T.T. Pasteurised	5	3	2
Accredited	1	1	0
Pasteurised	13	10	3
Ordinary	8	5	3
TOTALS	28	20	8

Failed Owing to:-

Bact. Count	Meth Blue	Bact.Count Meth Blue	B.Coli,Meth Blue	Phos.
2 7.14%	1 3.57%	1 3.57%	2 7.14%	2 7.14%

Number of Notices served under the Milk and Dairies Order, 1936:-

a. Statutory	0
b. Informal	4

Complied with:-

a. Statutory	0
b. Informal	3

(2) Meat and Other Foods.

X Slaughterhouses.	Total	8
	Number Licensed	8
	Inspections) See	
	Defects found) note	
	Defects remedied) below	
Butchers' shops....	Inspections	14
Markets.....	Total	2
	Inspections	4

X All Slaughterhouses, except the Ministry of Food Central Slaughterhouse, are out of use at present. The Ministry of Food Central Slaughterhouse is under regular inspection. The carcases and offal of all animals killed there are examined by the Council's Sanitary Inspectors.

Slaughter of Animals Act, 1933.

15 renewals of licences were granted under the above Act.

Carcases Inspected and Details of Meat Condemned.

Total number of carcases examined:- 8,444.

	Cattle excluding Cows & Bulls.	Cows.	Bulls.	Calves.	Sheep and Lambs.	Pigs.
Number killed and Inspected.	1337	858	95	2895	2772	487
All diseases except Tuberculosis. Whole carcases condemned.	0	1	0	2	3	1
Carcases of which some part or organ was condemned.	158	65	3	4	207	15
Percentage of the number inspected affected with disease other than Tuberculosis.	11.81%	7.69%	3.15%	0.20%	7.57%	3.28%
Tuberculosis Only. Whole carcases condemned.	23	41	1	4	0	3
Carcases of which some part or organ was condemned.	157	375	24	14	0	14
Percentage of the number inspected affected with Tuberculosis.	13.46%	48.40%	26.31%	0.62%	0	3.49%

Weight of Meat Condemned:- 31 tons . 11 cwt. 48 lbs.

Details of Meat Condemned at the Government Slaughterhouse.

31 carcases of beef and all offal
41 carcases of cowbeef and all offal
8 carcases of veal and all offal
8 carcases of pork and all offal
6 carcases of mutton and all offal
21 forequarters of beef
15 forequarters of cowbeef
2 part forequarters of cowbeef
2 part hindquarters of cowbeef
22 legs of pork
233 bovine heads and tongues
4 bovine intestines
418 bovine lungs
346 bovine livers
58 parts of bovine livers
32 bovine spleens
2 lots of loose bovine fat
13 bovine kidneys
15 bovine skirts
8 bovine melts
141 bovine mesenteries
151 cows udders
5 calves pluck and guts
10 pigs heads and tongues
13 pigs lungs and hearts
8 pigs plucks
5 pigs livers
16 crows and runners
155 sheeps livers
22 sheeps lungs
5 calves livers
3 pigs tripes

TOTAL WEIGHT 31 tons 10 cwt 5 qtr 20 lbs.

Other Foods Condemned

Many different articles of food, under 62 headings, were dealt with; - the total weight amounting to 8 tons. 2 cwt. 12 lbs. Full particulars are available for reference in the Health Dept.

Government Evacuation Scheme.

The Senior Sanitary Inspector has acted as Chief Billeting Officer throughout the period of the Evacuation Scheme. With the official return of the Evacuees on the 12th July, 1945, he resigned this position. The number of evacuees remaining in the area on the 31st December, 1945 was 57.

HORSHAM RURAL DISTRICT, 1945

STATISTICS & SOCIAL CONDITIONS OF THE AREA, 1945

Area (Acres)	79,970
Population at Census, 1931	20,710
Estimated resident population, mid-1945	22,890
Number of Inhabited Houses (end of 1945) according to the Rate Books	6,700
Rateable Value	£172,161
Sum represented by a Penny Rate	£690

EXTRACTS FROM VITAL STATISTICS OF THE YEAR.

	Total	M.	F.	
Live Births (Legitimate	336	163	173	)Birth Rate 16.12
(Illegitimate	33	17	16	)
Still Births	9	5	4	)Rate per 1,000)Total Births 24.39
Deaths	295	142	153	Death Rate 12.88

England & Wales Birth Rate. 16.1 Death Rate.. 11.4

W. Sussex Rural Districts Birth Rate.. 16.67 Death Rate.. 13.55

Deaths from Puerperal Causes:-

	Deaths.	Rate per 1,000 Total Births.
Puerperal Sepsis	0	0.00
Other Puerperal Causes	1	2.71

Death Rate of Infants under one year of age:-

All infants per 1,000 Live Births	32.52
Legitimate infants per 1,000 Legitimate Live Births	26.77
Illegitimate infants per 1,000 Illegitimate Live Births	90.90

During 1945 12 legitimate and 3 illegitimate children died under one year of age. Prematurity accounted for four of these deaths. (Infant Mortality Rate for England & Wales..... 46).

Deaths from Cancer (all ages)	54
Deaths from Measles (all ages)	0
Deaths from Whooping Cough (all ages)	0
Deaths from Diarrhoea(under two years of age)	2

Extracts from Vital Statistics (Cont).

The chief causes of death were:-

Heart Disease.....	104 (92 in 1944).
Cancer.....	54 (35 in 1944).
Cerebral Haemorrhage.....	27 (36 in 1944).
Pneumonia.....	11 (15 in 1944).
Bronchitis.....	14 (14 in 1944).

SOCIAL CONDITIONS

The district is largely agricultural in character with a few large country houses, but a certain amount of ribbon development had taken place around Crawley and Horsham in the years prior to the outbreak of war. There are two brickworks, and a number of factories,- mainly in and around Crawley.

PUBLIC HEALTH OFFICERS OF THE RURAL AUTHORITY.

(a). Medical.

Kenneth N. Mawson, M.B., Ch.B., D.P.H.,
Medical Officer of Health, part time with
other districts in the Sanitary Combine, and,
as Assistant County Medical Officer, School
Medical Inspector and District Tuberculosis
Officer for the area.

(b). Sanitary Inspectors.

V. Bartrim, A.R.S.I., Senior Sanitary Inspector,-
and Surveyor under Building Bye-laws until November 1945.
Housing and Meat Inspector, and Petrol and Carbide
Inspector.

L. J. B. Baker, M.S.I.A., Sanitary Inspector.
Housing and Meat Inspector, and Petrol and
Carbide Inspector.

Additional Sanitary Inspector (from 12.6.45).
H. W. Simmonds, M.S.I.A., C.S.I.B.,
Certified Sanitary Inspector, Royal Sanitary Institute
and Sanitary Inspectors' Examination Joint Board.
Certified Inspector of Meat and Other Foods, Royal
Sanitary Institute.

DIPHTHERIA IMMUNISATION.

During the year 391 children under the age of 5 years, and 68 between the ages of 5 and 15, received the full course under the official scheme.

It was estimated that, at the end of the year, 57% of children under 5 years, and 90% of those between 5 and 15, had been immunised.

Further particulars will be found in the Appendix to this Report.

TREATMENT OF SCABIES AND VERMINOUS CONDITIONS.

The number of patients and contacts treated during the year was:-

(a). Tan Cottage Sick-Bay:- 1 In-Patient. (17 in 1944).
61 Out-Patients.(226 in 1944).

(b). Base Hospital (Males). 1 (10 in 1944).

(c). Home Treatment, (including symptomless contacts):- 103
(77 in 1944).

The total number of patients treated was thus 166, as compared with 330 during the previous year.

Details of the arrangements for the treatment of these cases will be found in the Appendix.

LABORATORY FACILITIES.

Routine bacteriological work throughout the year was again referred to the Emergency Public Health Laboratory at Christ's Hospital until August. Details of the present arrangements will be found in the Appendix.

There was a further increase in the number of specimens of water and milk submitted to the Service.

ACCOMMODATION FOR INFECTIOUS DISEASE

There has been no change in the arrangements whereby patients are admitted to Swandean Isolation Hospital, Worthing. By agreement with the Corporation of the Borough of Worthing, eight beds are reserved for cases from the Horsham Rural District.

The following cases of infectious disease were admitted during the period ending 31st December, 1945:-

Swandean Isolation Hospital.

Scarlet Fever	30	
Diphtheria	4	(2 were D.N.C.)
Erysipelas	1	

Surrey County Hospital, Guildford.

Cerebro-spinal Meningitis	1	

SANITARY CIRCUMSTANCES OF THE AREA.

Water.

I am indebted to Mr. S. T. Cox, the Council's Water Engineer, for the following comments:-

"The persistent steady progress in main extensions has been maintained, and a fair amount of this work remains "on the books" for commencement.

First priority has been given to the Council House sites, and supply in each case has been available before the arrival of the building contractors.

Complaints of short supply and of excessive iron content have now been eliminated, both the Nutbourne and Smock Alley Pumping Stations having been completed and put into operation with iron removal plants.

Analyst's reports of the supply during the whole year under review have been satisfactory.

A marked increase in the number of domestic and farm connections has been observed, obviously due to the return of contractors' men from the Services. This fact has resulted in maintaining the high deliveries indicated in the Water Engineer's reports. The Engineer, however, has advised the Council of the necessity for proceeding with the construction of the trunk main from the Pumping Stations to

Water (Continued).

the Beedingwood reservoir if continuous supply is still to be maintained. It is hoped that arrangements for this will quickly be completed with the formation of the proposed Joint Water Board."

In addition to the sources mentioned above, additional supplies were taken for the North-Eastern part of the district, including Crawley, from the East Surrey Water Co. and the Mid-Sussex Joint Water Board. A small number of properties at Rudgwick, near the Northern boundary, were supplied from the mains of the Hurtwood Water Co., and a similar number at Kingsfold by the Dorking Water Co. By agreement with the Horsham Urban District Council, houses in the Kerves Lane area were supplied from the mains of that Authority.

Fewer complaints were received during the year from consumers on the higher levels regarding intermittent failure of supply. The main area affected was between Roffey Corner and Faygate, but complaints were also received from the upper part of the village of Rudgwick and from Kingsfold.

The number of dwelling houses connected to the Council's mains, at the end of the year was 4,658. This represents 69.2% of the houses in the Rural District. Outside standpipes for the supply of properties are not permitted by the Council.

Regular samples of water from the mains, from all sources, are taken by the staff of the Health Department, and satisfactory reports were received throughout the year. In all, 193 water samples were submitted to the Laboratories for bacteriological examination during the year, this figure including both main supplies and wells serving dwelling houses and farms.

Sanitary Inspection of the District.

Number of Notices served under the Public Health Act:

Formal	87
Informal	685

Number of Notices complied with:

Formal	38
Informal	342

Inspections etc.

Complaints received	449
Miscellaneous Inspections	1904
Re-inspections	1202
Workshops.	
Number on Register	70
(1). **Bakehouses:**	
Number on Register	18
Inspections	19
Defects found	6
Defects remedied	3
(2). **Laundries:**	
Inspections	2
Other Workshops.	
Inspections	7
Defects found	-
Defects remedied	-
Outworkers Premises.	
Inspections	4
Moveable Dwellings.	
Inspections	48
Fried Fish Shops.	
Inspections	-
Public House Conveniences.	
Inspections	31
Defects found	14
Remedied	13
Infectious Disease.	
Visits of enquiry	56
Rooms disinfected	60
Books disinfected	2
Rats and Mice (Destruction) Act, 1919.	
Number of premises visited	70
Total number of visits	112
Number of baits put down	650
Number of rats killed	1293
Shops.	
Number of shops inspected	45
Number of visits paid	49
Absence of W.C	-
W.C's provided	-

Housing (Cont).

(b). Closing Order on part of a building (Section 12)..... 1

(c). Undertakings accepted in lieu of Demolition Orders Section 11..... 2

(1) Number of dwelling houses in respect of which notices were served requiring repairs..... 8

(2) Number of dwelling houses which were rendered fit after the service of formal notices..... 4

(a) By Owners..... 4

(b) By Local Authority in default of Owners. 1

(b). Proceedings under the Public Health Acts:-

(1) Number of dwelling houses in respect of which notices were served requiring defects to be remedied..... 8

(2) Number of dwelling houses in which defects were remedied after service of formal notices.. 8

(a) By Owners..... 7

(b) By Local Authority in default of Owners.... 2

4. Housing Act, 1936 - Part IV - Overcrowding.

(a).(1) Number of dwellings overcrowded at the end of the year..... 30

(2) Number of families dwelling therein..... 49

(3) Number of persons dwelling therein..... 246

(b). Number of new cases of overcrowding reported during the year..... 28

(c).(1) Number of cases of overcrowding relieved during the year..... 1

(2) Number of persons concerned in such cases..... 8

(d). No. of formal notices to abate overcrowding served. -

(e). Number of notices complied with..... -

INSPECTION AND SUPERVISION OF FOOD.

(1). Milk Supply.

Dairies and Cowsheds.

Visits of Inspection	229
Number registered	361

Wholesale:-

Tuberculin Tested	56
Accredited	127
Pasteurized	1
Others	175

Retail:-

Tuberculin Tested	2
Accredited	-
Pasteurized	2
Others	84

Number of Notices served under Milk & Dairies Order, 1926:-

(a) Statutory	4
(b) Informal	52

Number of Notices complied with:-

(a) Statutory	3
(b) Informal	41

DRAINAGE WORK.

Drains tested	21
New drains laid	9
Houses connected to main drainage	1

DUST BINS.

New dust bins supplied	28

WATER.

Number of houses connected to main water	51

WATER SAMPLES.

Total number of bacteriological samples taken	193
Main supply satisfactory	103
Private supply satisfactory	11
Private supply unsatisfactory	79
Total number submitted for chemical analysis	8
Main supply satisfactory	4
Private supply satisfactory	2
Private supply unsatisfactory	2

MILK SAMPLES.

Total number of samples taken	22
Satisfactory	20
Unsatisfactory	2

PETWORTH RURAL DISTRICT, 1945

STATISTICS & SOCIAL CONDITIONS OF THE AREA, 1945.

Area (Acres)	45,635
Population at Census, 1931	8,210
Estimated resident population, mid-1945	8,430
Number of Inhabited Houses (end of 1945) according to Rate Books	2,518
Rateable Value	£46,174
Sum represented by a Penny Rate	£190

EXTRACTS FROM VITAL STATISTICS OF THE YEAR.

	Total	M.	F.	
Live Births (Legitimate	110	54	56	)Birth Rate 15.42
(Illegitimate	20	10	10	)
Still Births	6	2	4	)Rate per 1,000)Total Births 46.13
Deaths	113	59	54	Death Rate 13.4

England & Wales Birth Rate 16.1 Death Rate 11.4

West Sussex Rural Districts Birth Rate 16.67
Death Rate 13.55

Deaths from Puerperal Sepsis and other Puerperal Causes..... 0

Death Rate of Infants under one year of age:-

All Infants per 1,000 Live Births	23.07
Legitimate Infants per 1,000 Legitimate Live Births	27.27
Illegitimate Infants per 1,000 Illegitimate Live Births	0.00

During 1945, 3 legitimate and 0 illegitimate children died under one year of age.
(Infant Mortality Rate for England and Wales..... 46).

Deaths from Cancer (all ages)	18
Deaths from Measles (all ages)	0
Deaths from Whooping Cough (all ages)	0
Deaths from Diarrhoea (under 2 years of age)	0

The chief causes of death were:-

Heart Disease	37
Cancer	18
Cerebral Haemorrhage	14

SOCIAL CONDITIONS.

The district is agricultural and residential in character being comprised to a great extent of large estates. Fruit farming is an important and growing industry in the Kirdford area and a fruit packing firm operates there.

There has been no significant change in employment during the year. The termination of the war made little difference to the general labour position until nearly the end of the year, when there was a noticeable improvement in the distributive and building trades. In December the Council commenced to lay further water main extensions, but no labour was available in the district. Key men were imported from other areas by the Contractors.

PUBLIC HEALTH OFFICERS OF THE RURAL AUTHORITY.

No change occurred during the year except with regard to the post of Additional Sanitary Inspector. Mr. W. Parker retired on superannuation in February, after 25 years' service with the Council, and Mr. W. A. Noble was appointed in his place. Mr. Noble commenced duties on the 9th April.

NOTIFIABLE INFECTIOUS DISEASE.

The following cases were notified during the year. The figures in brackets indicate the corresponding number for the previous year:-

Scarlet Fever.....	7 (19)
Measles.....	121 (8)
Whooping Cough.....	6 (12)
Pneumonia.....	6 (5)
Erysipelas.....	1 (0)

Once again, no cases of Diphtheria were notified, nor of any disease of the Typhoid-Paratyphoid group.

T U B E R C U L O S I S

The number of cases added to the Register during the year... 4

Pulmonary Males... 1	Non-pulmonary Males... 0
Females... 2	Females... 1

There were 3 deaths from Tuberculosis, all pulmonary (2 Males, 1 Female).

The number of cases of Tuberculosis on the Register at the 31st December, 1945 was 94.

The home nursing of measles and pneumonia by the West Sussex Nursing Association has been continued and aided by a grant from the Council.

DIPHTHERIA IMMUNISATION.

During the year 121 children received the full course of immunisation under the official scheme. Of these, 103 were below the age of 5 years.

On 31st December 1945, it was estimated that 50% of children under 5 years, and 86% of those between 5 and 15 years, had been protected.

Further particulars and comments will be found in the Appendix to this Report.

TREATMENT OF SCABIES AND VERMINOUS CONDITIONS.

The total number of cases and contacts treated during the year was 119, as compared with 63 in 1944, and they were dealt with as shown below. The number in brackets indicates the corresponding number in the previous year.

(a) Tan Cottage Sick-Bay:- 0 (5) In-Patients treated.
32 (27) Out-Patients treated.
(b) St. Richards Hospital:- 26 (1).
(c) Home Treatment (including symptomless contacts):-
61 (30).

LABORATORY FACILITIES.

By agreement between the Petworth Council and the Medical Research Council, all routine bacteriological work was carried out by the Emergency Public Health Laboratory at Christ's Hospital, Horsham, until August 1945. There was a further increase in the number of specimens examined. Details of the present arrangements will be found in the Appendix.

ACCOMMODATION FOR INFECTIOUS DISEASE.

By agreement with the Chichester City Council, cases of Infectious Disease from the Petworth Rural District which require hospital treatment are admitted to the Chichester Isolation Hospital.

The following cases were admitted there during the period ending 31st December, 1945:-

Scarlet Fever..... 3 (6 in 1944).
Measles-Pneumonia..... 5 (None in 1944).

In addition to the above, one case of Measles was admitted to the Ganavan Sick Bay, at Cocking.

SANITARY CIRCUMSTANCES OF THE AREA.

Water : Public Supply.

There has been no change in the source of supply for public purposes, the two boreholes and well at Haslingbourne Pumping Station, Petworth, have continued to yield water satisfactorily both in quantity and quality.

Chlorination as a routine treatment has continued, with the same dosage rate, and the residual chlorine after 20 mins. contact time has remained constant at 0.15 parts per million.

Samples for B. coli examination have been taken every week from the source, and every two weeks from the mains in various parts of the district. On two occasions the presence of B.coli of the non-faecal type was indicated in small number (2 per 100ml. of water), and on one occasion B.coli was indicated belonging to the paracolon group (8 per 100 ml. of water) in a sample taken from the source. No B. coli was indicated in any of the samples taken from the mains. These results show a further considerable reduction on the adverse results of last year.

One sample was submitted during the year(25th July) to the Counties Public Health Laboratories for full chemical analysis and bacteriological examination. The result was satisfactory. The Analyst's comments upon the sample were:-

"This sample is clear and bright in appearance, neutral in reaction and free from metals apart from minute traces of iron and manganese. The water is hard in character but not unduly so, contains no excess of salinity or mineral constituents in solution and is of very satisfactory organic and bacterial purity. These results are consistent with a pure and wholesome water suitable for public supply purposes."

(Signed) Gordon Miles, B.Sc., F.R.I.C.

Routine water samples were submitted to the Medical Research Council's Laboratories at Christs Hospital up to the 31st August when they were transferred to Epsom College on the closure of the former. The latter is not convenient owing to the poor transport communications between the two places.

No water main extensions were completed during the year, but a number were contemplated and one contract had commenced before the end of the year.

The list of water main extensions approved by the Council under the provisions of the Rural Water Supply and Sewerage Act, 1944 was, together with full details and drawings, submitted to the West Sussex County Council, and after their approval had been obtained, to the Ministry of Health. Just before the end

Water (Cont).

of the year the Ministry of Health intimated,at an interview held in London, that further extensions to other parts of the district, primarily agricultural, should be considered and submitted under the Act.

This further list was prepared and submitted to the Council in February of the present year (1946) together with the necessary details and drawings.

The number of dwelling houses connected to the mains during the year was 83. The total number of dwelling houses connected to the mains at the end of 1945 was 1,456 (i.e. about 58% of the houses in the district).

Water: Private Supplies.

Samples of water from private supplies owned by landowners or Estate Companies have been taken during the year. One of these supplies served forty dwelling houses, one school and three farms and it was found to be seriously contaminated. Notices were served by the Council upon the owners of the various properties, and arrangements had been made by the end of the year for all the properties to be connected to the public water mains.

Another supply serving seven dwelling houses and one farm in the district, and several farms outside the district, was also found to be seriously contaminated.

In this instance no water main was available as an alternative source of supply, and the height of the properties above sea level was more than the feet head available in the water mains even if they were extended to supply. This was a matter for investigation, and at the end of the year a report was being prepared by the Engineer suggesting a method to overcome the problem by the use of an hydraulic ram using a good flow of stream water which was available to raise pure water from the mains to the height required.

Yet another supply serving nine dwelling houses and two farms was found to be seriously contaminated, and investigations to try and discover an alternative pure supply was still in progress at the close of the year.

A number of wells were found to be contaminated at individual properties, and the necessary action was taken in all cases. In general the properties were connected to the water mains. Seventy-five samples in all were taken from private supplies during the year, four were for chemical analysis, six for chemical analysis and bacteriological examination and the remainder for bacteriological (B.Coli) test. Twelve samples were reported as being satisfactory.

Drainage and Sewerage.

There were no changes during the year. Sewerage schemes were prepared for North Chapel and Fittleworth and submitted to the Ministry of Health under the provisions of the Rural Water Supply and Sewerage Act, 1944.

Schemes for other villages are in course of preparation.

Public Cleansing.

A refuse collection service covers the whole of the district with a frequency of collection varying from twice weekly, in the central parts of Petworth, to once monthly in the isolated parts. The greater part of the area is collected once fortnightly. One refuse vehicle, a Dennis with a body of 10 cubic yards capacity, (side loading), maintains this service with comparative ease.

The administration of the salvage service reverted to this Department in June, and the village units gradually closed down. All salvage is now dealt with at the central depot by Council employees, and the income is retained by the Council.

The Council have not undertaken the emptying of cesspools, but arrange for a private firm to empty cesspools during January, April, July and September for householders who make applications to the Senior Sanitary Inspector. A charge of 30/- per load (about 700 gallons) is made.

Sanitary Inspection of the Area.

An Additional Sanitary Inspector was appointed in April to take the place of one who retired on superannuation in the previous February.

His principal duties during the year were concerned with the Rural Housing Survey and good progress was made.

The following statistics give some information of the work done during the year. Figures can never by themselves indicate whether an inspection has merely been done or has been done well. Every endeavour is made to reach a satisfactory solution to each matter arising by informal friendly action. Where this cannot be done the Council are advised to take Statutory action, and have done so on a few occasions during the year.

Number of Notices served under the Public Health Act:-

1. Informal	31
2. Statutory	4

Notices complied with:-

1. Informal	32
2. Statutory	3

Inspections etc., (excluding housing inspections).

Factories	56
Workplaces	0
Number of notices served	7
Bakehouses	24
Number of notices served	4
Butchers Shops	116
Number of notices served	4
Slaughterhouses (not used during year except for occasional slaughter of cottagers' pigs)	28
Fried Fish Shops	13
Grocers' Shops	7
Restaurants and Cafes	7
Water Supply	702
Sewerage	138
Refuse Collection	16
Refuse Disposal	9
Public Conveniences	67
Salvage	18
Cemetery	20
Drainage	124
Petroleum Storage	5
Control of Civil Building	69
Miscellaneous Sanitary Visits	260

Privies converted to Pail Closets	3
Privies converted to Water Closets	0
Pail closets converted to Water Closets	2
Houses connected to main drainage	1

Water.

New houses connected to main supply	Nil
Existing houses connected to main supply	83
Samples taken from private supplies for chemical analysis or B.Coli examination	75
Number of such samples found "not satisfactory"	63

Infectious Diseases.

Number of enquiries into infectious diseases	38
Number of visits re disinfection	5

Camping Sites and Moveable Dwellings.

Camping sites licenced (P.H.A. 1936)	2
Number of inspections	4
Moveable Dwellings licenced	8
Number of inspections	20

Pests and Rodent Control.

Eradication of bed bugs (Cimex lectularius).

Number of visits of inspection	Nil
Number of rooms fumigated	Nil

Pests and Rodent Control (Cont).

Fleas (Pulex irritans).
Number of visits of inspection..... 4
Number of rooms fumigated..... 13
Rats (Rattus norvegieus).
Number of inspections (Rodent Officer)..... 14
Number of rats (estimated) killed (Rodent operator)... 182

H O U S I N G

Inspection of dwelling houses during the year:-

1. Total number of dwelling houses inspected for Housing defects (under Public Health or Housing Act)..... 182

2. Number of dwelling houses which were inspected and recorded under the Housing (Consolidated) Regulations. 168

3. Number of dwelling houses found to be in a state so dangerous or injurious to health as to be unfit for human habitation and not capable of being rendered fit at a reasonable cost. Section 11..... 45

4. Number of dwelling houses (exclusive of those referred to under the preceding heading) found not to be in all respects reasonably fit for human habitation. Section 9..... 123

5. Number of defective dwelling houses rendered fit in consequence of informal action by the Local Authority or their Officers..... 3

Actions under Statutory Powers during the Year.

Proceedings under Sections 9, 10 and 16 of the Housing Act, 1936.
(1) Number of dwelling houses in respect of which notices were served requiring repairs..... Nil

(2) Number of dwelling houses which were rendered fit after service of formal notices
(a) By Owners..... Nil
(b) By Local Authority in default of owners..... Nil

Proceedings under the Public Health Acts:-

(1) Number of dwelling houses in respect of which notices were served requiring defects to be remedied..... 5

(2) Number of dwelling houses in which defects were remedied after service of formal notices..... 5

Housing (Cont).
Proceedings under Sections 11 and 13 of the Housing Act, 1936.

(1) Number of dwelling houses in respect of which Demolition Orders were made..... 4

(2) Number of dwelling houses demolished in pursuance of Demolition Orders..... Nil

INSPECTION AND SUPERVISION OF FOOD.

(1) Milk Supply.

Wholesale Producers:

Number of Producers producing:-

(a) Tuberculin Tested	16
(b) Accredited	41
(c) Others	84
Number of Inspections	352

Retail Purveyors:

Number of Retailers selling:-

(a) Tuberculin Tested	2
(b) Accredited	8
(c) Pasteurised	2
(d) Others	16
Number of Inspections	28
No. of informal notices served under Milk & Dairies Order, 1926	60
No. of statutory notices served under Milk & Dairies Order, 1926	3
Complied with: (a) Informal	56
(b) Statutory	3

(2) Meat and Other Foods.

The only slaughtering taking place at present is that by occasional pig keepers for their own consumption. Visits are paid to food shops in the district and the following foodstuffs have been condemned as unfit for food during the year:-

One pig's head and offal (T.B).		Cereals	2 pkts.
Eggs	464	Marmalade	3 lbs.
Bacon	32¾lbs.	Pilchards	6 tins.
Butter	43½lbs.	Shredded Wheat	2 pkts.
Fish	2 boxes.	Pudding Mixture	67 pkts.
Plums	2 tins.	Rolled Oats	22 lbs.
Apples	14lbs.	Tea	2¼lbs.
Jam	30lbs.	Oranges	292 lbs.
Condensed Milk	109 tins.	Potatoes	2½cwt.
Canned Pork	14½lbs.	Lemons	12 lbs.
Stewed Steak	1 lb.	Dried Egg	3¾lbs.
Beans	3 tins.	Cheese	8 lbs.

A P P E N D I X

DIPHTHERIA IMMUNISATION.

By agreement between the County Council and the District Councils, immunisation of children in West Sussex is carried out by the Asst. School Medical Officers, with the assistance of the District Nurses. Records are kept in the School Medical Department at County Hall, and this department undertakes all administrative work in connection with the campaign.

During the year under review, monthly sessions were held at Crawley, at the Horsham Health Centre and at the Roffey Clinic. In addition, regular sessions were held at all smaller centres throughout the district, when possible at the time of School Medical Inspections. Every effort is made to ensure that there is no avoidable delay in arranging for the immunisation of any child as soon as possible after the receipt of the parents' application. In the case of the smaller villages, this frequently necessitates special visits in order to deal with small numbers of children, and has led to increased travelling by the medical staff.

Reference to the statistics, given separately for each of the three Districts, will show that a satisfactory level of immunisation is being maintained. There can be no doubt that the actual level is higher than the estimates given, as many children receive treatment privately, from their family practitioners, and only rarely is it possible to obtain full details of these cases.

During the year a large number of children, inoculated previously during 1937-40, received their third, or "reinforcing" doses. These cases are not included in the returns. When, as should always be the case, a child is first immunised at one year, it is desirable to administer one further dose at about the age of school-entry, and again between 10 and 11 years.

Regular visiting by the District Nurses of all young children has continued during the year, special lists having been prepared for the purpose based on information from the local Food Offices. Each child receives an attractive "greeting-card" on his first birthday, together with an application form for immunisation, and this method of propaganda has proved very effective.

LABORATORY FACILITIES.

In August, 1939, an Emergency Public Health Laboratory was established at Christ's Hospital by the Medical Research Council. Throughout the years of war specimens were submitted daily to this laboratory, and this service, whereby reports could be received without loss of time due to postal delays, proved of the greatest

Laboratory Facilities (Cont).

possible assistance to the Health Department and to all General Practitioners in the district, and doubtless contributed to the low incidence of infectious disease in the area. Not only were specimens received at any hour, but the Director made his services available to the Department and to Practitioners in doubtful cases, and rendered considerable assistance in epidemiological enquiries and in field bacteriology.

Unfortunately, in the Spring of 1945, the Medical Research Council decided to close the Laboratory, and the facilities ceased to be available as from August. We were instructed to send all specimens to the Emergency Public Health Laboratory at Epsom College, and here all work was carried out during the latter part of the year. This arrangement has led to a considerable increase in the work of the Department, as specimens are collected at this office, packed, and despatched by rail to Epsom daily. I would pay tribute to the staff of the Epsom Laboratory for their assistance in this work, as it is necessary for them to collect all packages from Epsom Station. On numerous occasions specimens have not been unloaded from the train at Epsom, but carried on to London, with resultant delay. The present arrangements are therefore not wholly satisfactory, but would appear to be the best that can be made under the present circumstances.

Owing to the closure of the Christ's Hospital Laboratory in August, it was not possible to obtain a complete record of the work carried out on behalf of the various Councils during the year. For this reason the usual tables are not included in the body of the Report.

TREATMENT OF SCABIES AND VERMINOUS CONDITIONS.

In earlier Reports, full details were given of the very satisfactory arrangements which had been made for the treatment of Scabies within the area of the Combined District. From 1941 onwards, the great majority of cases in women and children were referred to the Evacuation Sick-Bay, at Tan Cottage, Horsham. Adult males received treatment at the Base Hospital. Only in cases where attendance at a Cleansing Centre was difficult or impossible was "home-treatment" resorted to.

Unfortunately Tan Cottage Sick Bay was closed by the Ministry of Health in August, and the Canadian Military Hospital was moved from Roffey during the year. It proved very difficult to make satisfactory alternative arrangements. By the kind permission of the County Medical Officer, a certain number of women and children have been treated at the Horsham Health Centre, where a suitable bath is provided and treatment administered by the School Nurse. Patients from the Petworth Rural District,

Treatment of Scabies and Verminous Conditions (Cont).

where skilled treatment appeared essential, were referred to St. Richard's Hospital at Chichester, and we are indebted to the Medical Superintendent for his cooperation in this matter. In the great majority of cases, however, "home treatment" has had to be relied upon, and this has proved more satisfactory than had been anticipated. The necessary emulsion, together with full written and verbal instructions, is provided to all affected families. The great majority of patients cooperate satisfactorily, and comply with any instructions given them, and in no case has it been necessary to resort to legal action under the Scabies Order of 1941.

As will be seen from the figures given in the body of this Report, the incidence of Scabies has fallen considerably during the year in the Horsham area, although there has been an increase in the number dealt with in the Petworth District.

The number of verminous persons reported to the Department has been small. The majority of patients have been elderly men, and the use of D.D.T. powder in these cases has proved rapidly effective.

HOSPITALS PROVIDED OR SUBSIDISED BY THE COUNTY COUNCIL.

(1). Tuberculosis.

There is no change from the previous year with regard to the treatment of tuberculosis. Cases are admitted either to Aldingbourne House (accommodation 70 persons) or to a ward at Worthing Isolation Hospital, Swandean (accommodation 12 beds), whilst surgical cases are admitted to St. Richards Hospital, Chichester, to the Royal Sea-Bathing Hospital, then at Bracknell in Berks, or to the Lord Mayor Treloar's Hospital, Alton, Hants (for children).

(2). Maternity.

The County Council arranged for resident and evacuated expectant mothers to be admitted to:-

(a). Brighton Hospital for Women.
(b). Southlands Hospital, Shoreham.
(c). Worthing Hospital Maternity Home.
(d). Improvised Maternity Homes at Hindhead, Haslemere and Woking.
(e). Horsham Maternity Unit.

Reference was made in the previous Report to the new Maternity Unit, then in course of erection at the rear of Horsham Hospital. The Unit was opened in April 1945, a total

Maternity (Cont).
of eighteen beds being provided, ten of which are for County cases and eight for 'private' (i.e. doctors') cases.

Although erected and equipped by the County Council, the administration of the Unit is under the control of the Horsham Hospital Committee. The scheme is unique, and is a good example of the cooperation which is possible between a Local Authority and a Voluntary Committee. This provision has proved of the greatest benefit to mothers over a wide area.

(3). Smallpox.

The County Council's reservation of two beds in the Brighton Small-Pox Hospital at Fulking remains unchanged.

(4). Venereal Diseases.

Under the County Scheme, regular Clinics are held at Worthing, Brighton and Portsmouth. Facilities are also available at St. Richards Hospital, Chichester.

Local provision is made in Horsham under the Special Practitioner Service of the Ministry of Health. Drs. Morgan and De Lacey carried out this work on behalf of the County Council, patients being seen during normal surgery hours.

(5). General.

St. Richards Hospital, Chichester, administered by the Public Health Committee of the County Council, takes cases from the area which are not considered suitable for admission to the General Hospital.

HOSPITALS NOT SUBSIDISED BUT AVAILABLE FOR PATIENTS RESIDENT IN THE DISTRICT.

Horsham General Hospital.

There are available at this hospital 52 general beds, including those added at the outbreak of war under the Emergency Medical Services scheme. During 1944 further private wards were provided, the total number available now being 11.

During the last seven years, the Hospital has been fortunate in obtaining the services of a number of eminent consultants (in general medicine and surgery and the various specialities), the majority of whom are on the Honorary Medical Staff of the larger London hospitals. This has, of course, proved of great benefit to the local population, many of whom would have been obliged to travel to London for further advice.

Horsham General Hospital (Cont).

The Hon. Consulting Staff hold regular Out-Patient sessions, and, by agreement with the County Council, the Health Centre adjoining has been placed at the disposal of the Hospital for use as an Out-Patient Department, when not in use for County work.

Crawley Cottage Hospital.

Crawley Cottage Hospital transferred to its present pleasant surroundings in 1940, this hospital has accommodation for 28 patients. An operating theatre, Out-Patient department, and modern X'ray plant are provided.

Petworth Cottage Hospital.

The Petworth Cottage Hospital has accommodation for thirteen patients, arranged in two wards of six beds each, with one private ward. The hospital is provided with an operating theatre and X'ray Department.

AMBULANCE FACILITIES.

(a). Infectious Cases.

1. Horsham Urban and Rural Districts:-
The Morris Ambulance, jointly owned by the Horsham Urban and Rural District Councils, and used for the conveyance of patients suffering from infectious diseases, was purchased in 1927. Although maintained in fairly good running order, the vehicle is rather out of date.

 A member of the Surveyor's staff acts as driver, and the general assistant to the Urban Sanitary Inspector's department as attendant. It was therefore necessary, in certain cases, as when the patient was a woman or a child acutely ill, to arrange for the Swandean Ambulance to carry out the work, a nurse then being provided.

2. Petworth Rural District:-
Patients suffering from notifiable infectious diseases, when sent to Chichester Isolation Hospital, are transported in one of the Chichester Borough Ambulances, driver and nurse being provided by the Hospital.

(b). Sickness and Accident Cases.

1. Horsham Urban and Rural Districts:-
The St. John Ambulance Brigade have local Divisions in the towns of Horsham and Crawley. In Horsham, two

Ambulance Facilities (Cont).

modern ambulances are maintained and a resident driver is employed, attendants being provided by the Nursing Division of the Brigade. The town of Crawley and the surrounding area are served by a vehicle maintained by the Crawley Division, with attendants provided by the Nursing Division. No grant is made by either Council towards the cost of this work.

I would like to take this opportunity of paying tribute to the highly efficient work of both Divisions.

2.Petworth Rural District:-
The Petworth Rural District Council maintain a modern ambulance, a Morris vehicle delivered in 1940. This was used for the collection and transfer of cases of non-infectious illness and accident, the duties of driver and attendant being undertaken by unpaid volunteers.

(c). Hospital Car Service.

This Service was organised during the year, to carry out the work of the Volunteer Car Pool. A number of drivers, who had given their services to the latter Service during the war, agreed to carry on under the new Scheme, which has proved of great benefit to the community.

CLINIC AND TREATMENT CENTRES.

(1). Horsham.

The Health Centre in Hurst Road, adjoining the Horsham General Hospital, is under the control of the County Education Committee. Special sessions are held for Minor Ailments, Vision Testing (including Orthoptic Training), Diphtheria Immunisation, Speech Therapy and the treatment of Orthopaedic Defects, and a School Dental Surgeon is in attendance.

In addition Child Welfare and Ante-natal Clinics are held in the building, and there is a weekly Tuberculosis Dispensary. As mentioned previously, the Clinic premises at present serve as an Out-Patient Department of Horsham Hospital.

There is in addition a small Maternity and Child Welfare Centre in Leechpool Lane, Roffey, where Welfare and Ante-natal Clinics are held, and where Diphtheria Immunisation is carried out for the Roffey area.

Clinic & Treatment Centres (Cont).

(2). Crawley.

During the early part of the year, regular use was again made of the Crawley First-Aid Post for Clinic purposes. Regular Minor Ailment sessions were held for school children, and all Diphtheria Immunisation Clinics for Crawley and Ifield were held in the building, by permission of the Horsham Rural District Council.

The accommodation on the second floor was utilized by the School Dental Surgeon, and Routine Inspections of school children were carried out at the Post. When the building was finally closed, the above Clinics were held in the Church Hall in Robinson Road.

(3). Petworth.

The County Council maintain a small Clinic in High Street, Petworth. A combined Child Welfare and Ante-natal session is held there fortnightly; Dental and Diphtheria Immunisation clinics are held as required. In the more remote parts of the rural area, minor ailments among school children are attended by the District Nurses, who also act as School Nurses. Children required to attend special clinics for eye or orthopaedic defects are referred to Chichester or Horsham.

TREATMENT OF DIABETES.

In Circular 2734 of the Ministry of Health, all Local Authorities are empowered to provide supplies of Insulin for persons suffering from diabetes among the poorer inhabitants of their districts. All three authorities in the North-Eastern Combined District agreed, in the Spring of 1944, to make such provision in necessitous cases. The number of patients who received this free provision was 2 in the Horsham Urban District and 3 in the Horsham Rural District. No applications were received from residents in the Petworth Area.

M.G.C.
12.8.46